

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 6-10 are pending.

This listing of claims is provided for the Examiner's convenience. No claims have been amended.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A method for drying laundry in a laundry dryer having a program control device, a drying chamber and a process air circuit including a fresh air supply passageway and an exhaust air discharge passageway, the process air circuit having disposed therein a heater and a blower for conveying drying air through the drying chamber, the method comprising:

providing a flow dividing device in the process air circuit configured to divide, into an exhaust air component and a recirculated air component, a flow of the drying air;
measuring, by a sensor, at least one of a pressure and a pressure profile in an air stream of the process air circuit in an area where the drying air enters the drying chamber;
evaluating the at least one of the pressure and the pressure profile; and
controlling the flow dividing device based on the evaluating so as to reduce or set to zero the recirculated air component and to continue a drying process at a reduced volumetric flow rate of the drying air through the drying chamber.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The method for drying laundry as recited in claim 1 further comprising reducing a heating power based on the reduced volumetric flow rate of the drying air.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A laundry dryer comprising:
a program control module;
a drying chamber;

a process air circuit including a fresh air supply passageway and an exhaust air discharge passageway;

a heater disposed in the process air circuit;

a blower disposed in the process air circuit and configured to convey drying air through the drying chamber;

a pressure sensor disposed in an area where the drying air enters the drying chamber and configured to measure at least one of a pressure and a pressure profile in the drying chamber; and

a flow dividing device disposed in the process air circuit and configured to controllably divide a flow of the drying air into an exhaust air component and a recirculated air component, the flow dividing device including a shut-off damper configured to completely or partially close an air path of the recirculated air component based on the measured at least one of a pressure and a pressure profile.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The laundry dryer as recited in claim 8 wherein:

the drying chamber includes a rotating drum;

the process air circuit includes a stationary heating duct section; and

the pressure sensor is disposed in a space between the stationary heating duct section and the rotating drum.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The laundry dryer as recited in claim 9 wherein the pressure sensor is disposed in an area where the drying air enters the drying chamber.